

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

TRIBAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT – Tribal Empowerment Policy 2010 - 2015 –
Orders – Issued.

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SOCIAL WELFARE (TW.SER.III/A2) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 34

Dated:28 -04-2010.

Read:-

Ref: From the Commissioner of Tribal Welfare, Hyderabad,
Lr.Rc.No.3382/PR/TRI, dated:18-02-2010.

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ORDER:

In the reference read above, the Commissioner, Tribal Welfare submitted draft Tribal Empowerment Policy 2010-2015 and she had stated that the draft Tribal Empowerment Policy was put to discussion in all Districts and in all ITDAs by holding work shops / meetings and obtained feed back, that a State Level Work shop was also conducted on 4.2.2010, which was chaired by Minister for Tribal Welfare and attended by civil society organizations which are working for Tribal Development and Empowerment and also various Tribal organizations, and that based on the feed back from the above sessions, the draft Tribal Welfare Empowerment Policy has been prepared. The Commissioner of Tribal Welfare, Hyderabad requested the Government to approve the draft Tribal Welfare Empowerment Policy 2010-2015.

2. Government after examining the above draft Tribal Empowerment Policy 2010 – 2015 in detail, have accepted the same for implementation. The Tribal Empowerment Policy 2010 – 2015 is annexed to this order. All Departments in Secretariat are requested to take necessary action on the Policy items therein pertaining to their Department and furnish their reports to this Department on implementation of the Policies.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

A.K.TIGIDI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
All the Department of Secretariat (WE)
The Commissioner of Tribal Welfare, Hyderabad (WE)
The Finance (ESW) Department. (WE)

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The Accountant General, A.P., Hyderabad. (WE)
The Directors of Treasures A.P. Hyderabad. (WE)
All the Project Officer., in ITDAs., in A.P. (WE)
All the District Collectors. (WE)

Copy to:

The Principal Secretary to Chief Minister. (WE)
The P.S. to Minister (TW&RIAD) (WE)
The P.S. to Chief Secretary. (WE)
The P.S. to Special Chief Secretary. (Tribal Welfare) (WE)
The P.S. Principal Secretary (Social Welfare) (WE)
The General Administration Department (Cabinet) Department. (WE)
Sf/sc.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

Annexure

Tribal Empowerment Policy 2010 – 2015

The Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has been in the forefront in Tribal development in the Country. Many initiatives brought out by the State like Single Line Administration system, Ashram Schools, Residential Schools, 100% reservation to the local tribals in employment have been widely commended and replicated elsewhere. Owing to these initiatives, the socio economic development of the tribals in the State of Andhra Pradesh has got a positive fillip.

2. Although a substantial progress has been achieved in securing the benefits of economic development to tribal people, a number of challenges continue to confront them. The tribal economy is still plagued with low growth potential, poor infrastructure, lack of entrepreneurship, inadequate control over natural resources etc due to which the growth indices of tribal area continued to be far below the indicators for the rest of the State. While the Constitution of India and a series of legislations – both central and the state – protect the interests of the scheduled tribes, majority of them continue to remain vulnerable to deprivation and distress and are subjected to insecurity relating to livelihoods, nutrition, health and education.

3. With a view to consolidate the achievements gained thus far and to accelerate the pace of implementation of various enactments, policies, programs and related initiatives, the Government have decided to launch a comprehensive policy package for the holistic development of 50.24 lakh ST population of the state during the next five years. The policy will endeavour to fill the gaps in the existing tribal development framework, strengthen the service delivery system, ameliorate the conditions responsible for the distress and deprivation being experienced by those living in remote and interior areas, address the emerging challenges confronting the tribal communities, especially those living in the sub-plan areas of the State. Through this policy, Government rededicates itself to the task of growth with equity and justice.

VISION OF THE POLICY:

4. The policy envisions the following.
- (a) To double the income of every tribal household by 2015 through provision of assets that produce sustainable income.
 - (b) Achieve human development indices with specific reference to demographic, education, health and livelihoods on par with other areas.
 - (c) To address the issue of unemployment in educated tribal youth in a mission mode and provide job opportunities through skill up gradation to one lakh tribal youth by 2015.
 - (d) To empower tribal communities to effectively fight exploitation.
 - (e) To identify and operationalize resources required for implementation of development programs for tribals by effective utilization of the Tribal Sub Plan allocations.

- (f) Achieve effective convergence of activities of various departments at field level and thereby improving the service delivery system.

5. The Empowerment Policy of the Government envisages initiating concerted action in critical areas so as to bring about tangible change in the income levels and living conditions of tribals. The specific efforts would be focused in key sectors as mentioned below.

1. POVERTY ALLEVIATION:

As per 2001 census, the incidence of poverty in tribal areas is 61%. It is proposed to be brought down to less than 30% by 2015. Specific efforts would be initiated in the direction of organizing all tribal women into self help groups and ensuring that institutional credit is made available to all groups on fair terms. Their livelihoods will be strengthened through special land development projects, provision of irrigation facilities, development of horticulture and commercial plantations etc.,

2. EDUCATION:

The human development indicators of the ST population are much lower than the HDI of the rest of the population in terms of all parameters.

The Literacy rate of STs was 37.04 in the 2001 census, which is well below the overall state average of 60.47. The literacy among ST women was 26.11 as against 50.43 women literacy rate in the state.

Similarly the drop out rate among tribal school going children of Class I to X is also alarming. During the year 2008-09 it was 81.77 against a state average of 60.73 and among ST Girls it was 82.76 as against as state average of 61.38.

The low literacy and high drop out, especially among tribal girls, are the areas of serious concern. To address these issues, the following steps will be taken.

- Upgrading and strengthening existing Ashram and Residential Schools with required staffing by creating new posts, wherever necessary, in English, Physical Science and Mathematics
- Opening additional Hostels and Residential Schools at primary, secondary, Intermediate levels with special focus on ST Girl Child.
- 100% enrollment of tribal children and reduction of dropout rate, with special focus on tribal girl child education by developing enumeration and tracking system for out of school children.
- Pre school learning centers would be opened to prepare the ST children for learning in their mother tongue and transcend into telugu.
- Filling up all vacancies of teachers by conducting special recruitment drives.
- Special training modules in English, Mathematics and Sciences will be developed and intensive trainings will be given to all untrained tribal graduate teachers working in tribal areas.

- Strengthening of existing set up of educational planning, inspections & monitoring of schools and colleges by linking it to State Level Project Management Unit and ITDA level Project Management.

3. HEALTH:

Tribal population is far behind in all health indicators when compared with population living in plain areas due to inaccessibility and illiteracy.

The health indicators are poor in tribal areas as compared to the plain areas. Status of some of the indicators in reproductive and child health care is shown below.

Sl.No.	Indicator	Present Status		Present Status of STs in AP
		India	Government of Andhra Pradesh	
1.	IMR (per 1000 live births)	53*	52*	103.6●
2.	MMR (per 100000 live births)	254**	154**	NA
3.	TFR	2.7#	1.8#	2.75●
4.	Immunization (%)	56*	53*	50*

* SRS 2009; ** SRS Special Survey (2004-06); # NFHS-III (2005-06)

- Baseline Survey Indian Institute of Health and Family Welfare

While Government will continue existing public health care programs with renewed vigor, the essential focus would be on improving performance under the reproductive and child health care. The frame work for such thrust would be:

- Positioning trained Dais in every habitation to conduct safe deliveries.
- Coverage of 108 services to all habitations.
- Construction of birth waiting rooms near every PHC.
- Encourage tribal women for institutional deliveries.
- Federations of Self Help Groups at Mandal and Village level will be trained to monitor coverage of immunization of all children.

- Suitable incentive package to be developed for community based organizations which achieve universal coverage of immunization.
- Community level task force will be developed in partnership with NGOs and other organizations working in tribal areas to promote awareness about Family Planning and provide access for the same.
- 49% of the tribal population are malnourished at present. Efforts would be made to bring down the level of malnourishment of 15% by starting area specific food security schemes during the lean season. Health and nutrition centres will be opened in all habitations where PTGs are predominant. The centres will be managed by the community with the financial support of the Government. Health and nutritional centres will provide balanced diet to pregnant, lactating mothers and children upto the age of 3 years.
- ART centres will be established at ITDA level. The centres will provide AIDS Diagnosis, Counseling for patients and livelihoods to those effected. ART centres will also disseminate awareness about AIDS prevention by conducting special camps in all habitations.

4. SKILL & CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR TRIBAL YOUTH:

It is decided to upgrade and create employment opportunities to (1) lakh tribal youth in public and private sectors. To achieve this the following will be addressed.

- A series of market oriented career avenues will be identified and training will be imparted to tribal youth.
- Micro Industrial Clusters will be promoted in all ITDAs and entrepreneur development trainings will be imparted to qualified tribal youth to promote them in setting up of mini industries.
- The career guidance and employment cells at ITDAs will be strengthened providing infrastructure, career library, technical staff and training to staff on collection and dissemination of career information.
- Strengthening of all existing vocational institutions with necessary infrastructure, filling up vacant posts and sanction of additional staff, if necessary.

5. INFRASTRUCTURE IN TRIBAL AREAS:

The social and physical infrastructure in the tribal areas is inadequate and at a much lower level than the rest of the areas.

A. ROADS:

Out of 5,948 villages in the Scheduled Areas, only 4,856 have some kind of road connectivity leaving 1,092 villages without any connectivity. These villages will be provided road connectivity by designing special projects.

B. ELECTRICITY:

Among the area development programmes, electrification of tribal villages and habitations has been given priority. 11,679 habitations have been electrified leaving 818 habitations which will be covered by 2015 by conventional lines.

C. RURAL WATER SUPPLY:

Out of 12,497 tribal habitations 11,022 habitations have been either partially or fully covered with drinking water supply. Still 1,475 habitations require assured and safe drinking water facilities. These villages will be covered by 2012.

40 LPCD clean and potable drinking water will be provided to every tribal habitation throughout the year.

6. PROTECTION OF TRIBAL LAND:

Land is the most important source of tribal livelihood. The Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Areas Land Transfer Regulation, 1959 was enacted to protect the interest of tribals on land and check alienation of land by non-tribals. Towards this direction following measures should be initiated.

- The progress of restoration of lands would be closely monitored by a High Level State Committee by an assessment of total area alienated and fixation of annual targets of restoration.
- A Legal Cell will be set up in each ITDA to proactively identify cases of alienation and to provide legal services to the tribal communities. Law Graduates from Scheduled Tribes or Civil Society organizations will be drafted into Legal Cells who will work for tribals through a team of para legal youth.
- Land records in the Scheduled Areas will be computerized and updated.
- A Land Library will be established which will maintain Court orders, etc., at ITDA level to access information and pursue redressal in LTR cases.

7. RECOGNITION OF FOREST RIGHTS (RoFR) ACT:

Certificates of titles (individual and community rights) were issued covering an extent of 14.00 lakh acres so far. Recognition of Forest Rights will be continued and titles covering an additional extent of 5.00 lakh acres will be issued within the next year. The positive effects of this land mark initiative will be further strengthen by the following:

- Cases booked against STs under various forest offences should be withdrawn under the provisions of RoFR Act.
- Demarcation of the lands on the field & maintenance of the database of rights conferred under RoFR by the Forest and Revenue Departments.

- Comprehensive development of land given rights under RoFR will be taken up dovetailing NREGS. Such an initiative is expected to augment productivity of land and help tribal farmer realize higher income.
- It is the resolve of this policy to increase the land productivity by a multi-layer treatment starting with land development, moisture conservation, provision of irrigation, organic farming & horticulture activities.
- In order to impart necessary farming know how, systematic training programmes will be conducted in the villages through suitable extension network.

8. TRIBAL SUB PLAN:

Government reaffirms its commitment to ensure that 6.6% of the plan budget is spent in tribal areas in key development sectors. It will be ensured that an investment of Rs.14,000 crores would be made in tribal areas by key departments like Education (School Education, Higher Education and Intermediate Education, etc.), Forest, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Ground Water, Housing, Youth Services, Industries, Rural Development, Transco, Rural Water Supply, Roads (PR & RB), Minor Irrigation, etc.

A Tribal Development Fund (TDF) will be constituted as a non lapsable, non divertible fund for receiving all TSP allocations and financing all tribal programs formulated through the community based planning exercise.

Henceforth, monitoring of TSP will be two fold:

- i. Formulation of special projects for the benefit of tribals.
- ii. Implementation of projects and expenditure.

9. RESETTLEMENT AND REHABILITATION:

- Under the projects which displace large number of S.T families, in addition to the socio economic survey for assessment of loss of assets and resources etc., a social impact assessment survey will also be conducted by a special body consisting expert social scientists, economists, reputed N.G.Os involved in tribal development etc.,
- In all cases of submergence, mandatory land to land compensation will be given even if it entails acquiring of land.
- As far as possible, such lands for compensation shall be located in the Scheduled Areas to ensure enjoyment of Constitutional Rights by tribals.
- Non-tribals will not be given land compensation for house sites in Scheduled Areas.

- The Scheduled Tribes shall be consulted through Gramasabhas, as provided under the PESA Act, 1996 in providing the benefits under R&R policy especially the location of R&R centre, allotment of lands etc.
- To the extent possible, R&R centres for the scheduled tribe Project Displaced Families will be located in scheduled areas only to preserve their right of reservation for local scheduled tribes under V schedule.
- The Scheduled tribes in the R&R centers shall be given first priority in coverage under development schemes of different line departments in the first year of resettlement
- While assessing the loss of assets, the community assets and resources and loss of livelihood will also be accounted for.
- Where large number of scheduled tribe families are being displaced, a separate Tribal Development plan will be prepared in consultation with Project Officers ITDA or DTWO concerned and the Commissioner, Tribal Welfare will review the implementation of the same.
- At least one member of a displaced family will be provided employment in the Mining or Industrial Projects by providing necessary skills through appropriate training.
- Ground level monitoring mechanism will include representatives of the Scheduled Tribe PAFs/PDFs.
- All the Acts/Regulations relating to establishment of projects in Scheduled Areas and the related policies of Resettlement and Rehabilitation will be suitably amended to harmonize with the provision of PESA Act - 1996.
- The lands allotted to Scheduled Tribes as compensation for displacement will be free from all encumbrances and on the joint names of wife and husband.

10.PROMOTION / ADVANCEMENT OF TRIBAL CULTURE AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE:

Government will take a series of measures to strengthen tribal culture, languages and knowledge by:

- Strengthening of tribal museums.
- Documentation, preservation and dissemination of tribal arts and crafts and providing linkage to the markets.
- Organizing tribal festivals in all district headquarters in a phased manner.

- Supporting the folk art performers in their respective areas of specialization.
- Video documentation of the customs and practices of all the tribal groups in phased manner.
- Establishing Girijan Bhavans in all district headquarters to serve as documentation cum reference centers with facilities for conducting seminars and exhibiting tribal arts and crafts, dances and music and their way of life.
- Documentation and preservation of the traditional tribal knowledge and wisdom
- Dissemination of appropriate indigenous traditional practices for adoption in other areas.
- Yerukala and Kupia languages will also be developed with telugu script for preparation of text books.

11. GOOD GOVERNANCE:

Ensuring good governance and efficient service delivery is a paramount priority under the policy. This is proposed to be achieved through:

- Empowering the Gram Sabha of the scheduled villages under the "Panchayat Raj Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act".
- Rationalise the Gram Panchayats in the scheduled areas and declare all habitations with more than 500 population as Gram Panchayats.
- Every ITDA will be headed by IAS officers and will be given a fixed tenure of 2 years. Two years service in ITDA will be made mandatory in the first 10 years of service for all IAS officers.
- Strengthening the single line administration, including the provision of adequate staffing for the ITDAs and other government institutions.
- Utilisation of Information Technology to streamline the planning and monitoring of all developmental activities.
- Filling up of all vacant posts in the TSP areas during the 2010-11 financial year and a special package of incentives will be provided to the employees working in the ITDA areas.
- Strengthening the system to prevent issuance of false caste certificate to Scheduled Tribes and take stringent criminal action against those responsible. Strengthening of TCR & TI for assisting in this exercise.

A.K. TIGIDI

Special Chief Secretary to Government (TW)